

House Resolution

No. 29

Introduced by Assembly Member Campos

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Achadjian, Alejo, Atkins, Baker, Bigelow, Bonilla, Brough, Brown, Burke, Calderon, Chang, Chau, Chávez, Chu, Cooley, Cooper, Dababneh, Dahle, Daly, Dodd, Eggman, Frazier, Beth Gaines, Gallagher, Cristina Garcia, Eduardo Garcia, Gatto, Gipson, Gomez, Gonzalez, Gordon, Gray, Grove, Hadley, Harper, Holden, Irwin, Jones, Jones-Sawyer, Kim, Lackey, Levine, Linder, Lopez, Maienschein, Mayes, McCarty, Medina, Melendez, Mullin, Nazarian, Obernolte, O'Donnell, Olsen, Patterson, Perea, Quirk, Rendon, Ridley-Thomas, Rodriguez, Salas, Santiago, Steinorth, Mark Stone, Thurmond, Ting, Wagner, Waldron, Weber, Wilk, Williams, and Wood)

August 19, 2015

House Resolution No. 29—Relative to Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.

1 WHEREAS, Each year in the United States, over 20,000 women
2 are diagnosed with ovarian cancer, and about 14,500 women die
3 of this disease; and
4 WHEREAS, If diagnosed and treated at an early stage before
5 the cancer spreads outside of the ovary, the treatment is potentially
6 less costly, and the five-year survival rate is higher, at
7 approximately 70 percent. However, fewer than 20 percent of
8 ovarian cancer patients are diagnosed early. An overwhelming 80
9 percent of all ovarian cancer patients are diagnosed at advanced
10 stages; and

1 WHEREAS, Although mortality rates for other cancers have
2 been reduced due to the capabilities of early detection and enhanced
3 treatments, ovarian cancer causes more deaths than any other
4 cancer of the female reproductive system. Unfortunately, women
5 with ovarian cancer do not share the luxury of early detection. This
6 cancer is among the deadliest of all gynecologic cancers; and

7 WHEREAS, Ovarian cancer has been predicted to reach
8 epidemic proportions as the population ages because advancing
9 age is one of the known risk factors for the development of ovarian
10 cancer. About 90 percent of women who get ovarian cancer are
11 older than 40 years of age, with the greatest number of cases
12 occurring in women 60 years of age or older; and

13 WHEREAS, The symptoms of ovarian cancer are vague and
14 not well known by the public. While ovarian cancer is the ninth
15 most common cancer among the female population, it is the fifth
16 leading cause of cancer-related deaths among women; and

17 WHEREAS, When ovarian cancer is found in its early stages,
18 treatment works best. Ovarian cancer often causes signs and
19 symptoms, so it is important for women to pay attention to their
20 bodies and know what is normal for them. Symptoms may be
21 caused by something other than cancer, but the only way to know
22 is for women to see their doctor, nurse, or other health care
23 professional; and

24 WHEREAS, It is critical for women, physicians, and all health
25 care providers to recognize the risk factors and symptoms of
26 gynecologic cancers and to remember the importance of early
27 detection in preventing and treating this disease; and

28 WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the citizens of the State of
29 California to work together as concerned people to increase
30 research in understanding the causes, finding effective screening
31 and prevention strategies, and developing improved therapies for
32 ovarian cancers; now, therefore, be it

33 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, That the*
34 *Assembly hereby recognizes the month of September 2015, and*
35 *every September thereafter, as Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month*
36 *throughout the State of California, and encourages and promotes*
37 *the efforts of the people and the health care practitioners of the*
38 *state to increase their awareness of this disease and to educate*
39 *themselves about its early detection and prevention, the risk factors*

- 1 involved in its development, and the early warning symptoms and
- 2 signs; and be it further
- 3 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
- 4 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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